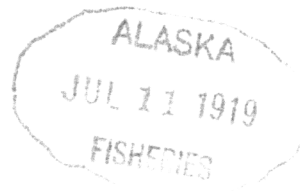


DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
BUREAU OF FISHERIES



JUNEAU, ALASKA,
June 27, 1919.

Commissioner of Fisheries:

Sunday afternoon, June 8, 1919, the Chilkoot Cannery of the Alaska Pacific Fisheries, burned, at practically a total loss, except for out-buildings. The traps usually operated by this company will continue to operate and fish will be sold to other concerns.

Inspector, Alaska Service.

CHILKOOT ALASKA CANNERY IS FISHERIES TOTAL LOSS

One Of Heaviest Losses In the
History Of Cannery
Fires
SHORE PLANT PRACTICAL-
LY GONE

Fire Starting In Box Loft
Takes Burkhart Cannery—
No Suspicion Directed To-
ward Employees Of the
Cannery.

One of the heaviest losses in cannery fires was recorded during the week at Chilkoot, where the Alaska Pacific Fisheries plant burned, with the exception of white and Oriental bunk houses, store and dwelling houses. The fire took the canning plant, cans, fishing gear, and everything connected with the main buildings.

The fire started about 2 o'clock Sunday afternoon in the box loft. The crew quickly rallied but were unable to do more than have surrounding buildings, as the wind shifted from the north to southeast at an opportune time.

Ott Burkhart, who came to Juneau on Monday, informs the Dispatch it will be impossible to check the loss for some days. He says the company was out for a record pack this year, and had thoroughly overhauled the cannery, putting it in fine condition for the season's pack.

The company will fish the gear now set for the season, and may send the catch to Yes Bay or Chomley for cannery. If not the catch will be disposed of to packers in this section.

There is no suspicion of incendiarism in connection with the fire, as he had one of the best and most satisfactory crews in many years. It is believed, however, that someone had been smoking around the box loft in opposition to orders, something common around canneries.

The day word reached Juneau of the fire there arrived a letter from the Portland agent of the Connecticut Insurance Company asking H. R. Shepard to look after a \$20,000 policy in favor of the Chinese contractor at Chilkoot. The Chinaman had insured himself against loss during the season.